

# ASBESTOS

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## **“Pipe Covering” and “Heat Insulation”**

¶The editor of Asbestos publishes timely comment on the commonly used name, “pipe covering.”

¶A name, as such, means little. “A rose, by any other name, would smell as sweet.” Asbestos retains its fibrous mineral nature, its resistance to heat, its insulating qualities, whether called asbestos, amianthus, or a crystalline form of hydrated silicate of magnesia. But a name, continuously used, that represents a particular mental condition, will inevitably lead its users towards that same condition.

¶Once upon a time, “pipe covering” was just that. Almost any kind of stuff that would cover pipe was used as an insulator.

¶The Norristown Magnesia and Asbestos Company long ago dropped such terms and the negative attitude and “get-by” products they bring to mind. It manufactures “heat and cold insulating materials.” These terms carry their message continuously to every one in the organization: materials to insulate; materials to withstand specific conditions; materials best suited to serve their very definite purpose; honest materials, honestly built, at an honest price.

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— A S B E S T O S —

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# ... ASBESTOS ...

A MONTHLY MARKET JOURNAL

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE  
ASBESTOS AND MAGNESIA INDUSTRIES

A. S. ROSSITER

EDITOR

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December, 1923

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Baseball Team of the United States Asbestos Company at Manheim, Pa. See Page 16.

## — A S B E S T O S —

### Utopia

Our friend, J. Tyson, was sitting in his library one evening after dinner, enjoying his favorite brand of cigars, and possessing that quiet comfort that comes from the knowledge of a day's duty well done.

He had attended to numerous telephone calls and correspondence during the morning, had lunched at the Jeffersonville Inn with a prospective customer.

In the afternoon he had played eighteen holes with a certain Canadian producer and had during the game found time to discuss the value of the German mark, the proposed (and abandoned) Canadian merger, the relative merits of two favorite brands of tobacco, and the most diplomatic way to placate wives when either thru accident, intention or lack of foresight they were offended.

Now he was free for the rest of the evening, and the soothing influence of his home and the tobacco made him drowsy.

Half asleep, his subconscious mind began to put together events of the day, distorting them but finally developing them into a rather alluring vision.

He saw, first of all, a huge combine of all asbestos mines—Canadian, African, Russian, Cyprus, Arizona. A combine which looked first to decreased costs in operation and overhead, and so made a price to buyers that was very attractive. These mines got together on grading and established standards for every use under the sun. A combine which had little selling expense because its job was to produce at the standardized cost the various grades for various purposes and naturally all orders for all materials came direct to the combine without solicitation.

He saw his own factory running day and night in the production of certain kinds of asbestos yarn—classified for a particular and specific purpose. No other material was made in that particular factory, and as a consequence there was no changing of machinery or excessive overhead cost for idle machinery. All orders for that particular kind of yarn were sent to his factory because his was the only factory which made that particular grade. And he was making money—not this year and losing the next, not spasmodically, but regularly and satisfactorily.

Another factory, across country a few miles was de-

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voted to the making of high grade cloth used for specific purposes. Still another a few miles further on made a low grade material likewise used for certain specific purposes.

Another factory was devoted to manufacturing of high pressure packing only, still another made electrical tape, and several more located at the best distributing centers of the country were confining their entire energies to the making of a standard brake band lining—the best that the combined ideas and discoveries of all brake liners could make possible.

All these factories were run on the same cost system, the same methods of organization, control of labor, and handling of records. All bought their raw materials (whether crude asbestos in the case of yarn, or yarn in the case of cloth and brake lining, or cloth in the case of packing) at certain standardized set prices, and were guaranteed to receive the kind and quality of material best suited for the particular purpose for which it would be used.

The factories and mills were managed by an executive committee of high standing, and so managed that things moved like clockwork. No delays and consequent "scarcity," no defective or inferior material, no experimentation necessary.

Further, he saw in this vision, another combine of paper manufacturers, with mills located over the country, at the most strategic points for receipt of raw materials and delivery to customers. These mills made paper and mill-board according to set, standard formulas for each particular use.

And so each division of the asbestos industry was standardized to the *nth* degree. Even the selling end was handled by a vast corps of trained salesmen, having their headquarters located in the principal cities, with one centrally situated building devoted to the training of new salesmen in methods of selling, and in the manufacturing processes used, and to keeping in constant contact with all salesmen out in the field.

And this vision showed him a sales force working on the most improved and up-to-date methods and supervised by the strongest men in the selling line in the industry.

The contracting line was another overall organization, handling its labor problems as a unit, and being assured that prices paid for material were right, with no worry as



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to whether Bill Jones would get the business, for *Bill Jones did not exist*.

All these divisions, mining, manufacturing, selling and installing, were controlled by one executive board; this executive board had as its right hand, an efficient and energetic research laboratory, searching for new uses, standardizing materials, testing out the various grades so that the grade and quality best suited for each particular purpose would be known and that grade only used.

As fancy went on, he saw that old competitive methods were forgotten, old jealousies done away with—everyone was working for a common end—the enlargement and betterment of the asbestos industry as a whole, with the result that each man in it was put in the position where he did the work that interested him most; each man was given an opportunity to develop his particular talent, be it buying, manufacturing, selling, collecting or what not, and had no need to worry with the million or more problems which constantly beset the head of mining, manufacturing or selling organizations.

The vision gradually faded, and Mr. Tyson awoke to find himself still in the twentieth century, and the insistent buzz of the telephone bell reminding him that he must still wrestle with the problem of keeping down operating cost and selling at a price which, while taking the business from his competitors, would yet net him a profit.

The vision perhaps is a wild one, but if economic conditions go on as they have within the last few years, and at as fast a pace, it will of necessity be the case of immense organizations only, with the smaller ones crowded out.

Of course, so long as human nature exists, that long will there be competition and jealousy, and even hate, and we venture to say that if a practicable plan were proposed tomorrow, by which all miners, all manufacturers, all contractors and distributors could be brought together in an organization that would immensely better every individual in the industry, at least half, and perhaps two thirds of the asbestos trade would hold up their hands in holy horror at the idea, instead of sitting down with an unbiased mind to help work out the problem.

Personally, we have never seen a group of men so unwilling to "play ball" with the other fellow as those in the asbestos trade. It is time they lost their prejudices and

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set to work to better conditions.—*With apologies to Mr. Tyson for the use of his name. (Mr. Tyson is in no way responsible for the above wild suggestions).*

Editor's Note: We realize that the above is an entirely utopian idea, impossible of realization for legal as well as practical reasons, but the thought contained in the article is to suggest that prejudices and differences of opinion in the industry be abolished, and that closer co-operation would react to the benefit of all.



### Mr. A. S. Bestos Says

*Some asbestos offices are being equipped with microscopes in order to fill their orders properly.*

*If some men put as much energy into running their own business as they do in trying to "put one over" on their competitors, they would soon make a fortune.*

*With the estimated drop in building construction during 1924 of \$400,000,000, the manufacturers of air cell covering would do well to take up the slack by an advertising campaign selling the insulation idea to the house owner and home builder.*

*There won't be much difficulty in getting pure asbestos cloth next year, if the cotton market keeps on soaring.*

*Some men rush down to their offices only to sit the rest of the day with their feet up on their desks.*

*Why doesn't Mr. C. Huber call a meeting of all textile manufacturers for the purpose of talking things over. It might help.*



**It pays to be straight. Look what happened to the cork-screw!**

## — A S B E S T O S —

**A** NEW process for extracting asbestos from ore is now available to operators. It represents the greatest single forward step since the industry was founded.

Several years laboratory work and the construction of a test mill have proved its efficiency.

Comparative tests against various asbestos mills show an average gain by this treatment of over 100 per cent. in recovery value per ton of ore treated.

A lower cost of treatment is indicated.

The fibre produced is of exceptional quality.

The process and various special apparatus required are covered by patents and pending patents in all important asbestos producing countries.

For information regarding licenses under these patent rights for Canada, address

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**North Wales,      Penna.**

# EDITORIALS

## A Christmas Picture.

Picture a town, big or little, in which the snow is softly falling. Lights from the stores, from homes, from street cars, glimmer through the whiteness. People hurrying to and fro, greet each other with laughter.

The snow not only casts a shadow of whiteness over buildings and people alike, but casts its shadow over sound as well, and raucous cries are softened, the clang of street cars toned down, and all noises so muffled that they come through the clear cold air like music.

Such is the picture we always see in our mind's eye when we think of Christmas.

And how like the picture is the effect of Christmas on the business world. This week everything is bustle and hustle, the driving of hard bargains, no time for the exchange of more than necessary greetings. Courteous, yes, on the surface, but underneath, the hardness, the petty jealousies, the strife between competitors, the many hard knocks we all come in contact with when in business.

And then, like the softening blanket of snow, comes the Christmas spirit, and everyone eases up a bit, jealousy gives place to kindness, strife to good fellowship, mere courtesy to helpfulness. The business world, for one day out of the three hundred and sixty five is changed by the all pervading Christmas spirit, just as the temporal world is changed by its blanket of snow; rough edges are rounded off, noise is subdued.

Afterwards people will be back in the groove again, in the struggle to make money, and more money, to get more business, to make even more strenuous the business whirl, but just for one day, the 25th of December, we all pause a bit to remember and live the command "Peace on earth, good will to men."



## Facts?—or Fancies?

Have you ever heard anyone use the phrase "they say," the pronoun "they" being a general appellation for the public at large, your gossipy sister-in-law, or the boys at the club?

## — A S B E S T O S —

"They", whoever they may be, are responsible for most of the rumors in the world.

A man recently made a general tour of the asbestos trade in the interest of a certain asbestos insulation. He was met everywhere with "they says".

"But," the customer would say, "there is little insulation value in that material."

"How do you know there isn't?"

"Why, so and so told me."

"And, how did so and so get his information?"

At that point the customer would become confused. He did not know. And thereupon his doubts as to the efficacy of the insulation were speedily dispelled by the seller *who had the facts*, in the form of reports of tests by disinterested laboratories.

There is altogether too little real data on what given asbestos materials will or will not do under stated conditions.

This is particularly true of the inexpensive insulation materials. We have been asked on several occasions for exact data on the efficiency of Air Cell, heat loss when different thicknesses were used, etc., but we could find no exact data.

We admit that laboratory tests are expensive and testing is a long, tedious process, but in many cases the cost could be borne by several manufacturers making the same materials.

Your keenest and most successful competitor will be the man who goes after the facts, is not satisfied until he has them, and then uses them liberally to back up his arguments.



### Difficulties in Selling Pipe Insulation.

If all pipe insulation were sold direct by the contractor to the person who pays the coal bill, conditions in the pipe covering line would be vastly different today from what they are.

If the pipe insulation salesman had a chance to show the user of the heater just how much money he would save during the winter by purchasing a pipe insulation of ade-

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***Publishers of "Asbestology"—Free to All  
Interested in Raw Asbestos***

**CORRESPONDENCE IN ANY LANGUAGE**

## — A S B E S T O S —

quate thickness, his path would be most all roses.

Almost anyone is willing to spend a little more money now if it means a saving later on.

Likewise in these days of coal scarcity, and scare strikes, and soaring prices on all coal, any man prefers to see his coal in the bin to having it leak out thru the pipes in the cellar in the form of heat, and thus wasted. In other words, one bushel of coal in the bin is worth two (or more) in the ashpit.

But seldom does the salesman get a glimpse at the owner. He sells to the steamfitter, the plumber or sub-contractor. And little do any of these care whether the owner wastes his coal or not. They are, of course, perfectly willing to buy quality if they can get it at their price. But seldom is the price asked by the manufacturer satisfying to the steamfitter or plumber. He is, of course, ever anxious to make his estimate as low as possible, as the contractor will award on the price basis.

And it is so easy to cut down the thickness of the pipe insulation, or the quality, for the contractor very likely doesn't care, and the *owner doesn't know*. So long as the owner can keep the house comfortable in cold weather and his coal bill does not run exorbitantly high, he doesn't dream there is a leak in his cellar that is taking money right out of his pockets.

It is probably impossible to devise any way for the salesman to sell direct to the owner of the heating plant. But why not sell the idea of insulation, and the idea of *adequate* insulation to the house owner before he becomes a house owner—to the potential house owner.

Then, when the architect plans the building, and the contractor begins to estimate, the owner will be insistent that his heating plant be properly insulated.

It would not take very much persuading on the part of the insulation manufacturers to make the public realize that the use of insulation is one way to get even with the coal miner.



We were so busy writing the leading editorial, and thinking up a lot of fine, long words to use in it, and looking others up in the dictionary, and trying to picture



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High Grade  
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Yarns, Brake Linings  
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Manufactured directly from the  
raw materials to the finished  
product in the one plant.

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PHILADELPHIA

## — A S B E S T O S —

how enthused everybody would be when they read it.

And afterwards, we were so busy buying the kids toys and watching the mechanical toys in Wanamaker's and the ponies in Gimbels and the Santa Claus in Strawbridge's (you know the kids were crazy to see them and of course they couldn't go alone, and their mother was too busy) that we almost forgot one very important thing in this number of "ASBESTOS." But we managed to rush it in at the last minute, and the printer man was obliging and squeezed it thru, and here it is—We wish you a very

### Merry Christmas

"ASBESTOS" desires samples of crude asbestos of all varieties from all locations. These samples should be of fair size and good quality, and should be plainly marked as to variety, exact location of deposit, and name of owner. We will willingly pay a fair price for the samples plus carriage charges. Mine operators in all countries are urged to send specimens for this collection.

The picture on page four shows the U. S. Asbestos Baseball Team, at Manheim.

The employees of the U. S. Asbestos Company have also organized the U. S. Asbestos Men's Club. This club has ideal quarters located close to the plant. Its objects are to provide a center for the social life of the employees of the Company, to provide recreation in the form of sport, and to afford an opportunity for self-development on the part of the ambitious.

Smokers and entertainments of various kinds are held from time to time, and a basket ball team has been formed.

Educational classes on various lines of value to anyone connected with the asbestos textile industry are about to commence and have aroused considerable interest.

The affairs of the club are conducted entirely by the employees of the company.

Note: We will be glad to publish descriptions and photographs of organizations of this sort, existing in connection with other asbestos firms.

— A S B E S T O S —

*We prepare*  
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White Rhodesian  
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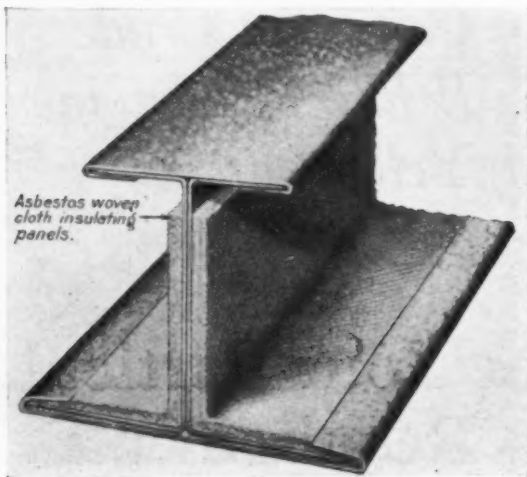
**8 West 40th Street : New York City**

**Works : BOUND BROOK, N. J.**

## Insulating the Oven

When we think or speak of 85% Magnesia Blocks, generally we visualize them in use on the boilers either of heating plants or of locomotives. Perhaps some of us are so imbued with the idea that insulation is always and forever connected with heating plants that we overlook some of its potential or possible uses elsewhere.

One of the places where Magnesia Blocks have been tried out with great success by the manufacturer, is as insulation between the walls of industrial ovens. Not only have Magnesia Blocks proven very efficient when so used,



By Courtesy of Gehrich Oven Co.

**Fig. 1.** *The Patented H-shaped binding strip, which holds the panels together without the use of bolts.*

but the manufacturers find that it affords an exceedingly good talking point in making a sale.

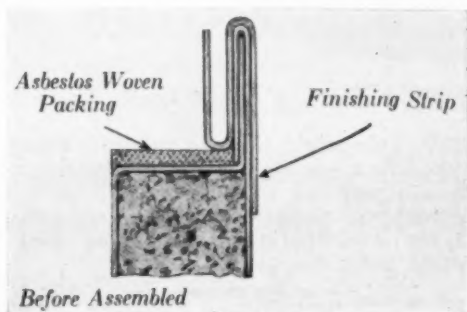
A friend of ours recently needed an industrial oven and got into communication with several manufacturers, from all of which he received catalogs, prices and calls from

## — A S B E S T O S —

representatives. The various makes were, naturally, of various constructions.

Now this friend had heard us talk of 85% magnesia, and its wonderful insulating qualities. He had even handled a specimen and had the pleasure of vigorously brushing his coat afterwards. As a consequence, when he found that one of the oven manufacturers used 85% magnesia blocks for insulating the side walls and roof, it would have been about impossible to sell him any other oven on the market.

The particular oven to which we refer is made by the



By Courtesy of Gehnrich Oven Co.  
Fig. 2. Ready for the second section.

Gehnrich Indirect Heat Oven Company. It is furnished in panels and as no bolts are required with which to fit the panels together and hold them in place, it is called the Boltless Oven.

The panels are built with galvanized steel sheets on the outside and black steel sheets on the inside, with the magnesia blocks  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches in thickness (in the case of the larger ovens, 2 inches up to 6 inches thick) between, the blocks being cemented together with asbestos cement. The heavier insulations are built up with layers of 2 inch blocks, laid with asbestos paper between them.

The panels are held together with a patented H-shaped binding strip of metal (Fig. 1.). This binding strip is so made that when it is in place it holds the panels together without the use of any bolts. On each side of the binding

## — A S B E S T O S —

strip, as will be noted from the illustration, is a piece of asbestos cloth, which prevents the loss of heat thru conduction by eliminating thru bolts and metal parts touching. (Fig. 2.)

The oven is used for all classes of industrial baking and drying operations, such as japanning, enameling, core

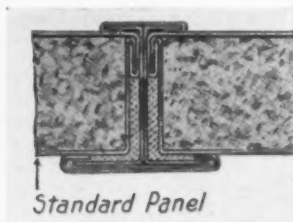


Fig. 3. Showing method of using binding strip.

By Courtesy of Gehnrich Oven Co.

baking, etc. This brings them to use in finishing widely different products, such as umbrella parts, automobile accessories, badges, bed springs, brake linings, buttons, celluloid products, electrical insulators, firearms, meer-shaum, typewriters, sparkplugs, hair pins, steel tubing, thermometers, tacks, etc., etc.

Don't forget that our classified ad section is always ready to help you. If you want a new connection, or a new salesman, if you have some asbestos machinery or a job lot of asbestos materials to dispose of, used the classified ad space in "ASBESTOS". Cost is very slight, \$2.00 per issue.

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**A S B E S T O S**

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**IMPORT**

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# --- A S B E S T O S --- MARKET CONDITIONS

*"This much can be said with safety: 1923 is ending with business reasonably active. What does 1924 promise to bring? I, for one am not prepared to hazard a guess just yet.*

*"Between now and January 1 additional light should be shed on a number of matters calculated to have a very potent influence upon business and finance and labor and wages in the coming year. \* \* \* \* \**

*"Meanwhile, it should be said that optimism predominates, both in business and stock market circles."—B. C. Forbes in the December 8th issue of "FORBES."*

It is rather curious that anyone of Mr. Forbes' recognized ability in forecasting business conditions, should little more than three weeks before the New Year, be compelled to admit that he does not know what 1924 prospects are likely to be.

However, "optimism" predominating should mean at least hope of improvement. Asbestos is always slow to react to general market movements, but it always gets there finally.

The situation in Europe is, of course, a very large factor in the asbestos market, for the more raw material required by Europe, the less necessary for the mine operators to quote below cost prices in the States in order to dispose of their stocks.

## **Raw Material**

The raw material markets in both Canada and Africa are making no profit and in some cases are losing heavily. Buyers are becoming more and more dictatorial.

The lowest price gets the business and therefore the mine operators are very industriously "swapping" customers, for if one mine operator gets the business of a buyer of crude for instance, away from the operator who formerly sold him, the latter will promptly go out and by underbidding, take a customer away from some other operator, and in the end it all resolves itself into the vicious circle which does no one, not even the buyers themselves, any good, and demoralizes the market generally.

Some predict higher prices. For our part we do not see how they can go lower.



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Capacity

5      “

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## — A S B E S T O S —

### Packings and Textiles

*"In our business, which is principally with the steamship trade, matters could not possibly be worse, and that is the time to provide for better business, which is bound to come as soon as the German situation is settled."*—*Stewart Dickson, President Stewart Dickson and Company.*

Others, however, say that their packing business is improving gradually, November showing a decided increase over October.

But while there may be varying opinions as to demand, dependent upon the class of trade served, everyone, agrees that prices are low and are going lower. One of our readers remarks that this condition is due to overproduction or facilities for overproduction, giving it as his opinion that there is enough equipment in the country to produce four times the possible requirements (in packings) of the United States and Canada.

We regard as most significant, however, the establishment by H. B. Potter, Co., Ltd., of a United States affiliation (see page 43). The gentlemen connected with this new firm have all had many years experience in the packing line, and it would seem reasonable to suppose that if they have faith enough in the future of the asbestos packing business to establish this new company, the clouds of depression should soon lift.

A much "brighter" feeling is reported as prevailing in the brake lining industry. Some companies report 1923 as a record year and expect even better business in 1924. In fact, volume appears quite satisfactory altho prices might be better.

Production of motor cars and trucks for November totalled 325,135 some forty thousand lower than October and lower than any month's total since February, but—*higher* than any month last year.

### Insulation

*"We believe it looks good for at least six months ahead, which is as far as we like to determine at this time."*—*F. F. Turner, General Manager of American Insulation Company.*

The insulation line is the particular pet of the asbestos industry at present.

**ELWOOD J. WILSON**

**718 BORDEN BUILDING**

**350 Madison Avenue**

**At 45th Street**

**NEW YORK - - N. Y.**

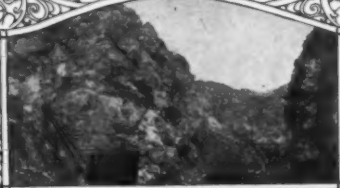
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Paper Stocks, Cements***

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# — A S B E S T O S —



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## **— A S B E S T O S —**

Depending largely on building conditions, the insulation business continues good. Both high and low pressure insulation are in demand, the former because of the large amount of industrial building being done, public works, etc., and the latter because of the huge demand for homes. Competition is keen however, and orders taken on very close margins.

### **Paper and Millboard**

While it may seem that in this discussion Paper and Millboard should be placed before insulation, the former market is so affected by the latter that we prefer to discuss insulation first.

So long as the insulation business is good, and building keeps up to or above normal, so long are the Paper and Millboard markets active.

But—prices are low and do not show the proper differentials as between the five distinct products of paper manufacture. Some say future prospects are bright, some are pessimistic and others admit frankly that they don't know.

In this connection, it is interesting to note the forecast of Thomas S. Holden, Statistician for the F. W. Dodge Corporation. Mr. Holden gives it as his opinion that the total construction during 1924 will approximate roughly \$4,000,000,000, against \$4,400,000,000 in 1923 and \$4,500,000,000 in 1922.

### **Shingles**

The shingle market appears to be very active. The large figure appearing in the left hand column under Imports of Manufactured Asbestos (see page 29) consists almost entirely of shingles.

Of course the winter months will slow up the shingle business considerably but the very mild weather existing in many parts of the United States up to the time this issue goes to press, causes the slump to be more gradual than usual.

And we believe the shingle manufacturers will get away to a fine start in the spring.

### **Summary**

As a whole, conditions are far from satisfactory. This is shown in the efforts of the asbestos trade in general to watch closely their expenditures. They are preparing for a long, hard winter.

— A S B E S T O S —

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# — A S B E S T O S —

## Imports and Exports of Asbestos

### Imports into U. S. A.

#### *Unmanufactured Asbestos*

	September 1923	
	Tons	Value
Italy .....		\$ 55.00
England .....	96	16,841.00
Canada .....	17,425	551,250.00
Brazil .....		43.00
Port. E. Africa .....	225	63,432.00
	<hr/> 17,746	<hr/> \$631,621.00

#### *Manufactured Asbestos*

	September 1923	
	Lbs.	Value
Austria .....	2,004	\$ 463.00
Belgium .....	1,500,748	26,685.00
France .....	4,000	523.00
Germany .....	185,655	3,726.00
Netherlands .....	3,415	80.00
England .....	10,503	4,175.00
Canada .....	2,765	355.00
	<hr/> 1,709,090	<hr/> \$36,007.00

A comparison of the above figures with those given in the November number (page 33) for the month of August, will reveal some interesting facts. Particularly note the large increase of manufactured asbestos from Germany, the August figure being 218 pounds, while the September one is 185,655 pounds. The dollar figures for importations from Germany are also interesting.

### Exports From The U. S. A.

*Exports of unmanufactured asbestos* for the month of September totalled 82 tons, valued at \$5,294.

#### *Exports of manufactured asbestos goods:*

	Lbs.	Value
Paper, Millboard & Rollboard	382,780	\$ 20,988.00
Pipe Covering and Cement..	428,798	30,237.00
Textiles, Yarn and Packing..	108,736	63,965.00
Magnesia & Manufactures of	339,500	24,904.00
Roofing .....	9,207 sq. ft.	38,349.00
Other Manufactures Asbestos	419,699	75,286.00
		<hr/> \$253,729.00

# A S B E S T O S

## Exports From Canada (Raw Asbestos)

	August 1923		August 1923	
	Tons	Value	Tons	Value
United Kingdom ...	245	\$10,383.00	185	\$17,100.00
United States .....	10,407	449,085.00	8,105	447,348.00
Australia .....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Austria .....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Belgium .....	525	29,263.00	679	51,240.00
France .....	505	34,988.00	150	8,891.00
Germany .....	770	54,060.00	1,100	86,911.00
Italy .....	78	5,725.00	107	10,005.00
Japan .....	380	24,325.00	155	10,200.00
Netherlands .....	60	8,550.00	2	150.00
Spain .....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Switzerland .....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Other Countries .....	.....	.....	150	9,225.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>12,970</b>	<b>\$616,379.00</b>	<b>10,633</b>	<b>\$641,070.00</b>
<i>Sand and Waste—</i>				
United Kingdom .....	.....	.....	.....	.....
United States .....	6,936	84,183.00	5,985	50,532.00
Other Countries .....	110	1,950.00	10	80.00
<b>Grand Total .....</b>	<b>20,016</b>	<b>\$702,512.00</b>	<b>16,628</b>	<b>\$691,682.00</b>

## Imports by England

The August figures not having reached us in time for publishing in the November number, we are giving this month figures for both August and September.

	August		September	
	Tons	Value	Tons	Value
From Rhodesia .....	395	£11,639	686	£23,784
From Canada .....	211	2,601	611	9,586
From Other Countries .....	325	9,015	529	9,236
	931	£23,255	1,836	£42,606
Re-exports .....	365	£12,430	615	£20,599

These imports include no material from Russia, according to the report of the Custom House Statistical Office at London.

## Exports by England

	August		September	
	Tons	Value	Tons	Value
To Netherlands .....	48	£3,551	20	£2,686
To France .....	20	8,534	20	8,033
To United States of America	4	1,149	6	2,582
To British India .....	62	4,140	64	7,925
To Other Countries .....	572	29,242	820	56,160
	706	£46,616	930	£77,386



— A S B E S T O S —



# AMERICAN ASBESTOS COMPANY



*Manufacturers of*  
**Asbestos Textiles**  
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*Headquarters for*  
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# — A S B E S T O S —

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#### SLATE SURFACE SHINGLES

#### WATERPROOFING

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Roof Paints  
Asbestos Roof Cements  
Asphalt Pitch

### THE PHILIP CAREY COMPANY

Lockland, Cincinnati, Ohio

# — A S B E S T O S —

## Production Statistics

### **Rhodesia.**

Rhodesian production showed a further increase during August, total figure being 2020 tons. Production of asbestos in Rhodesia during July, as reported in the November issue was 1929 tons, while in June it was but 1617 tons. We give detail figures for August production below:

#### *Bulawayo District*

	Tons	Value
Nil Desperandum (Afr. Asb. Min. Co., Ltd.)	597	£11,941
Pangani (J. S. Hancock) .....	30	360
Shabani (Rhod. & Gen. Asb. Corp., Ltd.)...	853	21,318

#### *Victoria District*

Balmaln (Afr. Asb. Min. Co., Ltd.).....	46	918
Gath's (R. & Gen. Asb. Corp., Ltd.).....	362	9,052½
King (Rhod. King Asb. Co., Ltd.).....	132	2,648½

	2,020	£46,238
--	-------	---------

### **Union of South Africa.**

Asbestos production in the Union during August showed a slight dropping off in tonnage from that in July.

August production was:

	Tons	Value
Transvaal .....	315	£5,917
Cape .....	319	4,464

	634	£10,381
--	-----	---------

while that in July amounted to 700 tons, valued at £10,363.

What many automobiles need is not four-wheel brakes, but fore-sighted drivers.

## **Pennsylvania Asbestos Corporation**

MANUFACTURERS OF

Boiler Covering and Furnace Cements, Liquid and  
Plastic Asbestos Roof Coatings, Etc.

**General Office: Norristown, Pa.**

Plant - North Wales, Pa.

## Resistance of Various Asbestiform Minerals Against Heat

BY HENRY JOSEPH, Chrysotile Fellowship,  
Mellon Institute of Industrial Research

Tho the chief use of asbestiform minerals is for heat insulation or as a resistance to heat flow, the technical literature on the subject is very meager with respect to the behavior of the fibres on exposure to various temperatures.

In 1898 P. Kersting<sup>1</sup> reported some experimental work with mineral silicate fibres. He heated three different fibres in a muffle at 1830°F. Long, silvery-gray, silky and easily separable Canadian asbestos became slightly brittle. Short, dirty-gray, Canadian fibres became very brittle, and assumed a reddish tint. Light, bluish-gray, silky, South African fibre broke down to a hard red powder containing small crystalline needles.

In 1900 E. Van der Bellen<sup>2</sup> compared some of the properties of fibrous silicate minerals and classified them into those containing considerable water of combination and those containing little combined water. The fusion point of fibre containing little combined water was given at 2100°F., while fibre containing considerable water of hydration fused at 2820°F. to 2860°F.

Later, in 1916, Bobaricov and Mramarnov<sup>3</sup> performed experiments to determine the behavior of asbestos rope on exposure to fire. Large losses in strength were noted between 390° and 570°F., due to the burning out of organic material. Between 930° and 1290°F. the loss of combined water became noticeable and the strength decreased to less than ten per cent of the original. The material used for these tests was made of Russian chrysotile.

In the same year. F. Bayer<sup>4</sup> made an investigation for the purpose of testing the strength of asbestos at high temperatures, the influence of cotton content of asbestos fabric, and the insulating property of asbestos boards and mattresses. He reported considerable decrease in the strength of asbestos board at 212°F., the loss of strength increasing with rise in temperature. He noted that blue asbestos loses greatly in strength on exposure to high temperatures and

<sup>1</sup> Chemical Industry 21, (9) 171-4.

<sup>2</sup> Chemische Zeitung, 1900, 24, (37), 392-3.

<sup>3</sup> Engineering, 102, 451-2.

<sup>4</sup> Kunststoffe, 1916, 6, 89-92, 119-121, 129-131, 146-149.

# **Asbestos Corporation of Canada, Limited**



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**THETFORD MINES  
Quebec, Canada**

## — A S B E S T O S —

recommended that it should not be used for insulation above 390°F. He found that chrysotile does not change perceptibly in strength when exposed to 750°F.

The writer has exposed fibres from known sources to various temperatures up to and beyond the fusing points. Chrysotile from Arizona, Rhodesia, Russia and Canada, and crocidolite from South Africa were used for the tests. Small samples were weighed in porcelain crucibles of known weight and exposed to temperatures from 410°F. to 1490°F., for one hour. At the end of one hour the crucibles and samples were cooled and weighed. The loss in weight was calculated for each sample and any changes in the appearance and strength of the fibre noted.

The various samples of chrysotile behaved very similarly and began to lose weight and strength rapidly above 840°F. Up to 840°F. the loss in weight was very small, but rose gradually with temperature rise up to this point and rapidly thereafter. At about 1470°F. all samples of chrysotile had lost most of their combined water and became harsh and brittle. The strength of the fibres after this exposure was negligible for all practical purposes. The fibres turned slightly brown due to the oxidation of ferrous iron and was particularly noticeable in the case of the Russian chrysotile which contained over six per cent. of iron oxide (calculated as  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ ).

Crocidolite turned slightly brown even below 570°F. and at about 660°F. became decidedly red and lost its strength at the end of one hour's exposure. The change in color was due to the oxidation of the iron and this change is evidently the cause of the loss of strength.

Samples of the various fibres were heated in a blast lamp to make it possible to pulverize the materials and prepare cones for fusion point determinations. The Russian fibre fused at about 2730°F., the Canadian at about 2800°F. The African blue fused readily at 2100°F. The difference in fusion points of the samples of chrysotile were small and almost within the limits of experimental error.

It is hoped that this note will be of interest to the asbestos industry in helping to decide where asbestos from various sources will be suitable and to know the limitations of the various fibres.

# — A S B E S T O S —

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## — A S B E S T O S —

# NEWS OF GENERAL INTEREST

During the first week in January the U. S. Bureau of Census will mail to all manufacturers in the United States, schedules which when filled out by the manufacturers, returned to the Bureau and tabulated will result in a census of manufacturers for the year 1923.

The Bureau has agreed to tabulate the data as rapidly as the schedules are received and publish the tables within a few days after receipt of the last report.

Since the result of this census will undoubtedly be of very great value to all manufacturers, it is urged that the schedules be returned to the Bureau promptly. Manufacturers not returning the schedules within a reasonable time will be visited by a special government agent so that no manufacturing establishment will be left out of this census.

It is hoped that all asbestos manufacturers will make their returns promptly.

The Bureau of Mines has prepared a "Bibliography of Magnesians Cements," under Serial No. 2534. Anyone interested may borrow our copy or one can be obtained direct from the Bureau of Mines.

Mr. Dana Pierce was recently elected President of the Underwriters' Laboratories, succeeding William H. Merrill, deceased.

Contracts awarded in October, according to reports of F. W. Dodge Company, amounted to \$360,686,600, against \$288,931,700 in September, number of projects in October being 11,382 against 8819 in September. These figures cover 36 states (northeastern and southeastern districts).

The principal increases occurred in public works and utilities, which showed an increase of over eight millions of dollars, and in residential buildings which increased sixty one millions of dollars.

John S. Broughton, for many years president of the Globe Rubber Tire Manufacturing Company of Trenton, N. J., has retired from active participation in the affairs of the company. He, however, retains membership in the Board of Directors.

The Rubber Age announces that the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company of Akron is about to acquire all the patents and rights of the German Zeppelin Airships.

"Forbes" reports that the Baldwin Locomotive Works expects to show earnings of \$35 a common share for 1923.



# — A S B E S T O S —

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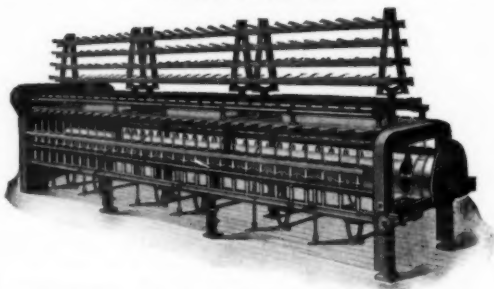
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# — A S B E S T O S —

## NEWS OF THE INDUSTRY

We have just received from the Cape Asbestos Company of London some very interesting literature concerning their various asbestos products.

A very attractive booklet under the title "The Merits of Blue Asbestos for Insulation" is printed in two colors, the illustrations being in blue, and contains very concise information on their Blue Jacket Sectional and Pluto coverings.

Other folders give the result of tests on these coverings, the tests having been made by such recognized authorities as the National Boiler and General Insurance Co., Ltd., of Manchester, and the National Physical Laboratory of Teddington.

Readers desiring to study these tests can borrow the pamphlets from "ASBESTOS."

The Underwriters' Laboratories in their most recent list of inspected electrical appliances includes mention of re-examination service on Asbestos Covered Fixture Wire manufactured by the Belden Manufacturing Company of Chicago, General Electric Co., Rockbestos Products Corporation and on other asbestos covered wires manufactured by the General Electric Company and Rockbestos Products Corporation.

The most recent list of appliances inspected for accident hazard by the Underwriters' Laboratories, includes mention of re-examination service on flooring (anti-slip material) manufactured by Johns-Manville, Inc., and described as a continuous layer of J. M. Flooring Mastic, forming wearing surface on floor structure.

The Asbestos & Cork Products Company on November 1st, took over the pipe covering business of the John Johnson Company of Detroit, Mich. The location of the new company is the same as that formerly occupied by the John Johnson Company, 1314 Gratiot Avenue.

The John Johnson Company will conduct an awning and tent business at 305 Woodward Avenue.

Articles of incorporation have been filed by the American Asbestos Corporation, at Globe, Arizona, with C. O. Ludlow, President, A. E. Brackett, Vice President, and E. B. Ludlow, Secretary. Capital stock is placed at \$100,000.

The Scottish Rhodesian Development Company, Ltd., which owns and works the Batagori, New Forest and Windsor Mines in the Victoria District, Africa, has purchased the asbestos mill of the Eva Mine and is now actively producing. It is reported that their mines are opening up remarkably well.

— A S B E S T O S —

ASBESTOS



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## — A S B E S T O S —

Norman R. Fisher, Mines Manager of Consolidated Asbestos Limited, is the author of an article appearing in the Canadian (November) number of Compressed Air Magazine. "Canada's Great Asbestos Industry" is the title.

Mr. Fisher has promised to write an article for "ASBESTOS"; we are wondering when he will get around to it.

Several of the Canadian Mines are closed down for the winter, which means some idle workmen in the Thetford camp.

Eugene Larochelle, in charge of engineering work at the Bell Mine, Thetford, has been appointed one of the mine's inspectors on the technical staff of the Bureau of Mines at Quebec. Mr. Larochelle will act as assessor for the collection of royalty on asbestos, in addition to the inspection of asbestos mines from the standpoint of the safety of workmen.

U. S. Government report on Venezuela states that 1 metric ton of Asbestos was exported from Venezuela in 1920.

The Asbestos Products Company at 2100 Fullerton Avenue, Chicago, are building a two-story addition, 50' x 150', mill construction, sprinkled. Estimated cost \$75,000. Plans are now being prepared by Frank D. Chase, Inc., Engineers and Architects.

E. J. Trainor has resigned as Manager of the Waterford Plant of the Asbestos Spinning & Weaving Corporation, and is open for negotiations with parties wishing to start a new textile mill or reorganize their old one. His address is 61 Breslin Avenue, Cohoes, N. Y.

The mechanical equipment, stock of merchandise and sales business of the Waite-Wild Company of North Framingham, Mass., has been absorbed by the United States Asbestos Company, and Mr. R. Wild is associated with the United States Asbestos Company in an important position among its principal executives.

All the fabrics formerly made and sold by the Waite-Wild Company will be continued by the United States Asbestos Company as additions to their own line, including the Blue Asbestos Mattress and Packing business. Any inquiries and orders from Waite-Wild customers will be given prompt attention by the U. S. Asbestos Company, Manheim, Pa.

At the January meeting of the Consolidated Classification Committee, it is expected that application will be made for reduction in minimum weights on carloads of Asbestos Corrugated Paper. It is probable also that the Canadian as well as the Consolidated Classification, will be asked to insert in Item 17, Page 70, "Asbestos Shorts," in addition to Sand or Refuse.

## — A S B E S T O S —

The meeting held on November 21st, at Washington, D. C., by the Asbestos Brake Lining Association was attended by 37 men, representing 22 organizations, (of which latter 13 are manufacturers of brake lining.)

Short addresses were made by S. von Ammon, Dr. F. C. Brown and W. S. James, all of the Bureau of Standards, by E. W. McCullough, Manager Fabricated Production Department of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, A. W. Koehler, Vice President of the Asbestos Brake Lining Association, C. E. Harwood, of the Russell Mfg. Co., Clarence Carson, Chairman of the S. A. E. Subdivision on Brake Lining, and Herbert Chase of the Class Journal Company.

The Decelerometer was thoroly demonstrated and everyone present expressed deep interest.

During general discussion, it was found that the Bureau of Standards fears it may not have sufficient funds with which to continue its brake testing work for the remainder of its present fiscal year, and it was suggested by Mr. Carson that the automotive industry as a whole should be willing to help in this very worthy work which commands the interest of the entire American Public.

It is the hope of the Bureau to install in the near future equipment by which to start a study of the influence of the material used on brake drums on the service and durability of brake linings, and other problems of similar character.

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The H. B. Potter Company of Rochdale, England, has organized a United States subsidiary company under the name of H. B. Potter Company, Inc., and has purchased the factory of Stewart Dickson & Company at Fanwood, N. J. (formerly operated under the name of the Peterson Mfg. Company) and also a large factory at Plainfield, N. J. The factory at Fanwood will continue to manufacture piston rod and other packings and gaskets. The one at Plainfield will be devoted to the manufacture of compressed jointing and will also open and prepare crude fibres for customers in the compressed jointing line.

The main office of the company will be located at Plainfield.

The officers are A. Seeley of Rochdale, President; Thomas McConnell of Easthampton, Mass., Vice President; Stewart Dickson of New York City, Treasurer; and Mary S. Chalmers, Secretary. The Directors are the President and Vice President, H. B. Potter, A. A. Douglas and J. Barnes, the last three all of Rochdale, England.

The new company expects to be operating by the first of the year in all lines; at present it is offering packings and gaskets only.

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Congratulations are extended this month to the following gentlemen on the occasion of their birthdays: W. H. Huber, M. D., Vice President Asbestos Fibre Spinning Company, whose birthday occurs on December 22nd; Richard B. Engle, Secretary

# Asbestos Fibre

*for the manufacture  
of*

Roofing Cements • Fibrous Paints

Filtration Packings

Asbestos Shingles and Lumber

• Insulating Cements

Asbestos Paper • Pipe Coverings

Asbestos Millboard

High Temperature Cements

**THE QUEBEC ASBESTOS  
CORPORATION**



*Office and Mines*

**EAST BROUGHTON, PROVINCE of QUEBEC  
CANADA**

## — A S B E S T O S —

and Treasurer of the Crandall Packing Company, birthday date January 3rd.

Stewart Dickson & Company, Inc., 114 Broad Street, New York City, will continue in business as heretofore, notwithstanding Mr. Dickson's interest in and management of the newly formed H. B. Potter Company, Inc.

Andrew A. Pfeiffer, formerly with Ehret Magnesia Manufacturing Company and the Valteau-Quinn Corporation, will, on and after December 1st, be associated with the Asbestos Construction Co., Inc., Contracting Distributors for Johns-Manville, Inc., located at 651-55 W. 43rd street, New York City, N. Y.

George D. Crabbs, president of the Philip Carey Company, has recently been honored by election as director of the Cleveland Reserve Bank.

O. H. Cilley as of December first, has accepted the position of manager of the Asbestos Spinning & Weaving Corporation, Waterford, N. Y. Mr. Cilley was formerly connected with the U. S. Asbestos Company.

Anyone interested in the purchase of fifteen sets of cards with camel backs, some twisters, braiders, rope machines and two mules is requested to communicate with "ASBESTOS," who will put them in touch with the owners.

### PATENTS


On August 28th, to Geo. Christenson of North Plainfield, N. J., assignor to Johns-Manville, Inc., on **Method of making Piston Rod Packing**. No. 1,466,087, filed January 11, 1921, Serial No. 436,445. Description too lengthy to be included here.

On September 18th, to Oscar Gerlach, LaSalle, Ill., **Heat Insulating Material** and method of manufacture. No. 1,468,149, filed February 24, 1920, Serial No. 360,826. Described as a method of preparing a heat insulating composition including adding a soluble metallic salt to a solution of a silicate, separating the gelatinous precipitate so formed from the salts in solution and mixing the separated precipitate while it is still moist, with infusorial earth.

On September 25th, patent was granted to Frank A. Headson, of Milwaukee, Wis., on **Lining or Friction Member for Brake Bands, Brake Shoes** or other articles. No. 1,468,634, filed May 9, 1921, Serial No. 468,087, and described as follows: In a device of the class described a friction shoe member formed of a composition comprising in combination, fibrous Asbestos, rubber and sulphur, all intermixed together and compressed and vulcanized, and having a friction surface provided with an aperture therein, and a graphite member inserted in said aperture, and having an

— A S B E S T O S —

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## ASBESTOS

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exposed surface flush with the friction surface of the main body of such friction shoe member.

On October 16th, to William R. Gillies, Chicago, Ill., assignor to the Union Asbestos & Rubber Company, Chicago, Ill., on **Insulating Tape**. No. 1,470,723, filed September 22, 1922. Serial No. 589,787. Described as an insulating tape adapted to be tightly spiralled about a pipe, comprising a flexible sheath, consisting of a flattened tube, formed of a textile fabric of Asbestos and a multiplicity of independent Asbestos fibre ropes, disposed side by side and longitudinally of said sheath, and substantially filling the latter.

On October 23rd, to Henry H. Hindshaw, St. Paul, Minn., assignor to Hindshaw Engineering and Development Company, St. Paul, on **Heat Insulating Material**. No. 1,471,846, filed December 7, 1921, and described as an insulation material composed of particles of moss, bound together by peat. Serial No. 520,588.

On November 13th, No. 1,474,215, on **Demountable Brake Lining** by Harold Vanderhoof and William Gillig, San Francisco, California. Filed February 5th, 1923. Serial No. 617,076. Described as a vehicle brake lining band, comprising in combination a brake band, a detachable metal strip with ears projecting from the edges thereof: a brake lining fixed to said metal strip, a clip on the outside surface of said brake band adapted to be held in place by the said ears when bent over a hole extending thru said clip, said brake band and said metal strip, a pin in said hole and tabs on said clip adapted to be bent over said pin to hold it in place.

On November 13th, No. 1,473,981, on **Wallboard**, by Jesse W. Wagner, Silverdale, Kansas. Filed November 2, 1922, Serial No. 598,607. Described as a composition wallboard including a paper backing, a layer of course textile fabric, spaced furring strips upon the fabric and consisting of twisted fibres, an open mesh wire fabric resting on and bridging the spaces between the furring strips, a binder consisting of asphalt and asbestos fibres, saturating the textile fabric and furring strips, and connecting together said fabric backing, strips and wire fabric, fibres adhering to the binder and extending between and beyond the strips, and finely comminuted stone adhering to the binder between the fibres.

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## BUYERS CLASSIFIED INDEX

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Being a listing of those firms whose products are of particular interest to those in the Asbestos Industry.

Rate for listing supplied on application.

We hope to gradually make this listing of great value to our readers.

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### ASBESTOS TEXTILE MACHINES

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Whitin Machine Works, Whitinsville, Mass.

December, 1923

Page Forty-seven

## ASBESTOS ROOFINGS

### UNDERWRITERS LISTED

2-Ply White Seal in Rolls  
3-Ply White Seal in Sheets  
4-Ply White Seal in Sheets  
4-Ply Fire Chief Burlap Centre in Rolls

2-Ply Black Seal in Rolls  
3-Ply Black Seal in Sheets  
4-Ply Black Seal in Sheets  
1-Ply Imperial No. 2 Asbestos Saturated  
Felts in Roll

## ASBESTOS BASE FELT ROOFINGS

Asbescoat—No. 52 Roofing—50 lb. in Rolls  
Asphalt Coated Both Sides

Asbeslate Roll Roofing—85 lb. in Rolls  
Either Red, Green or Blue Black  
Asbeslate Std.-Individual Shingles 8x12 $\frac{1}{4}$   
Either Red, Green or Blue Black  
Asbeslate—Strip Shingles—"4-in-1", 10x32 in.  
Either Red, Green or Blue Black

## H. F. WATSON CO.

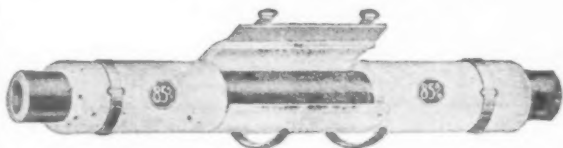
*Main Office  
and Factories*

**Erie, Pa.**

**79 MILK ST.  
BOSTON**

**5331-9 SO. WESTERN AVE.  
CHICAGO**

**85% Magnesia**  
**STEAM PIPE AND BOILER COVERINGS**  
**AND LOCOMOTIVE LAGGING**



**The Lightest Weight Steam Pipe and  
Boiler Covering Made**

**That is Structurally Strong  
and  
Permanently Effective**

**IS**

**“Ehret’s 85% Magnesia”**

**Made at**

**VALLEY FORGE, PENNSYLVANIA**

**Since 1897**

**By**

**Ehret Magnesia Manufacturing Co.**

*Distributors Everywhere*

**BRANCH OFFICES**

**NEW YORK**

**PHILADELPHIA**

**CHICAGO**

We extend to all  
Associated with the Industry  
Heartiest Christmas Greetings  
and  
Best Wishes for the New Year



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**Consolidated Asbestos Limited**

Canada Cement Building

**Montreal, - Canada**

